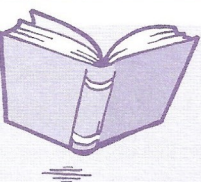


Direct and reported speech



There are two ways of writing down what someone says: you can use **direct speech** or **reported speech**.

Direct speech is when you write down exactly what the person said. You use speech marks to show the beginning and end of the spoken words.

For example: 'I have no-one to help me,' said Mrs Chatterjee.

Reported speech is when you write what has been said but you do not use the exact words spoken – instead you report it in your own words.

For example: Mrs Chatterjee said that she had no-one to help her.



I. Write these exchanges as **direct speech**.

Put speech marks around the words that are actually spoken. Start a new line each time a new character starts to speak. You can choose the names for the characters.

a)

What's the matter?

I've lost my way.

b)

What shall we do now?

Run for it!

c)

I think we're nearly there.

I hope you are right!

d)

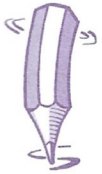
You shall go to the ball.

But how?

Direct and reported speech



You will often need to write down what people say when you are writing stories or newspaper reports. It is a good idea to use some **direct** and some **reported speech**.



2. Change these examples of **direct speech** into **reported speech**.

a) 'I know the answer!' shouted Judith suddenly.

b) 'Can we follow our footsteps back through the forest?' asked Michael.

c) 'The dog must have buried the key in the garden,' explained George.

d) 'It's all my fault,' said Rebecca.



3. You are writing a newspaper report about a disastrous holiday. Write down what these people said about their holiday using reported speech.

a)



Mr Paul

I could not believe what was happening!

b)



Miss Jackson

Will we get our money back?

c)



Mr Patel

My family were very worried.

d)



Dr Archer

I will certainly be writing a letter of complaint.
